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THE FRONTLINE

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Serving the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield communities (www.stewart.army.mil)

February 12, 2009



**Soldiers take to
the hoop**
See Page 1C



Pvt. Erik S. Anderson

Intelligence exercise completes - Staff Sergeant Edward J. Nowicki, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team's Fusion Cell and member of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd HBCT, 3rd Infantry Division, helps break down concertina wire after a Fusion Cell field exercise, Feb. 6 on Kelley Hill at Fort Benning. The exercise, which was conducted Feb. 2 – 6, demonstrated the unit's intelligence gathering capabilities. See story on Page 11A.

3 ID engineers earn FORSCOM honors

Sgt. Joseph McAtee
3rd ID Public Affairs

First Lieutenant Matt Miller from 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team and Company E, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment , 2nd BCT, have been recognized by U.S. Army Forces

Command for superior performance in engineering for 2008.

Miller placed first for the Outstanding Platoon Leader Award and Company E placed third for the Lt. Gen. Emerson C. Itschner Award given to the best engineer company.

Miller's achievements will now go to the

Department of the Army for a chance to be recognized servicewide.

"They're very prestigious awards," said Lt. Col. Robert Kaiser, the Division engineer chief. "It's a testament to the hard work of Sappers downrange as well as at home and to the support our engineers get from their chains of command."



Spc. Michael Adams

Retired general visits Stewart - Lieutenant General Hal Moore, retired Army officer, autographs his book "We Were Soldiers Once ... and Young" at the Lt. Col. Keith L. Ware Command and Control Facility, Feb. 7. Moore autographed approximately 20 books for the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 789. See story on Page 5A.

Former CSA to visit

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

The former Chief of Staff of the Army, retired General Gordon G. Sullivan, will speak to 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers on Feb. 18 and 19. Sullivan will speak at Club Stewart, Feb. 18 and at Hunter Club, Feb. 19 with both events starting at 11:45 a.m.

Sullivan, who co-authored the book, "Hope is Not a Method," will

give a 30-minute presentation discussing the moral characteristics required of a good leader.

This presentation will be part of a no-host lunch.

The event is open to all sergeants major and field grade officers of the 3rd ID, United States Army Medical Department Activity, U.S. Army Dental Activity, and Department of the Army Civilians. Attendance is on a voluntary basis and is not mandatory.

See VISIT _____ Page 6A

Marne Soldiers earn EIBs

Pfc. Crystal Bradley
2nd BCT Public Affairs

Over the past several weeks, 1st Brigade Combat Team and 2nd BCT, 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers kicked up their day-to-day pace a notch when they trained and earned the

Expert Infantry Badge at the Marne Obstacle Course, here.

The Soldiers' opportunity to earn their EIB came as a rare one; this year's competition for the award served as the first time since 2002 that EIB training had been held at Fort Stewart.

See EIB _____ Page 15A

Conference supports community

Randy Murray
Public Affairs Specialist

The 3rd Annual Civil Support Conference was held at Club Stewart's main ballroom, Feb. 4, and one of the main topics discussed was a tragic incident that occurred just after last year's

conference. Around 7:20 p.m., Feb. 7, 2008, an explosion and fire occurred at the Imperial Sugar Dixie Crystal Plant near Port Wentworth, Ga. Of the 121 plant employees and contractors working the night shift that evening, 36 were severely injured; 14 of which, had to be sent to the Burn Center in Augusta, Ga.

See LESSONS _____ Page 6A


Celebrating diversity: African-American History

Pete Geren
Secretary of the Army


George W. Casey, Jr.
General, U.S. Army Chief of Staff

Kenneth O. Preston
Sergeant Major of the Army


"Those who have no record of what their forebears have accomplished lose the inspiration which comes from the teaching of biography and history."


-Dr. Carter G. Woodson

February is National African American History Month - an opportunity to reflect on the many accomplishments of African-American Soldiers, Families and Civilians who have served our great nation for more than 200 years. America's Army is the best in the



world at what it does. By respecting and leveraging our different backgrounds and experiences, perspectives and attitudes, and skills and problem-solving capabilities, we will continue to meet the challenges of an uncertain future. We learn from our past and aspire to a better future. As General (Retired)



Colin Powell said last year at the 60th Anniversary of President Truman's order to integrate the military: "Let's not rest on our laurels as long as there is one kid out there who grows up wondering, 'Can I dream in America? Can I get to the very top?' The answer has to be yes, you can."

Freedom Team Salute - Remember your mentors

Commentary
Pat Young
Managing Editor

Working as the managing editor for The Frontline provides me opportunities to read about the on-going events and projects that the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and its community are involved in.

A recent article written by Dorothy Taylor at the education center discussed one of the counselors, Edgar Hall, and the impact he made on the life of Gustavo Caruso (Feb. 5 edition, Page 5A.)

The article inspired me to pause and think about people who influenced my life – and one of the Army's new methods of saying 'thanks' to Army supporters – the Army Freedom Team Salute. One of the people that came to mind when I read Taylor's article was Annie Thomason, a budget analyst and long-term installation community member at Stewart-Hunter.

I met Thomason in 1995, who at the time was a ser-

geant first class in charge of the supply section for the 24th Signal Battalion. The battalion leadership team knew she was an expert when it came to 'beans and bullets.' In the three years I worked with her, I learned she understood people too.

Working as the unit's battalion motor officer and then growing into positions of higher authority as the Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander, I was assisted by Thomason who became one of my many mentors. She was an exemplary NCO, teaching me the basics: know your job and your responsibilities.

Thomason was born in a very small rural town in Arkansas, one of nine sisters and brothers. Growing up on a farm, she didn't realize that her Family didn't have much money.

"Life was really, really simple," Thomason reflected one day. "We did not realize we were poor - outhouses as opposed to inside bath rooms, no running water inside, had to go outside and pump water to drink and bathe."

degree in 1978 from Cumberland Junior College in Lebanon, Tenn.

One day, she saw a commercial about how the Army Soldier did more before 6 a.m. than many people do all day, and it piqued her interest. She saw it as a way to give back to the community while helping her achieve her goals of being 'All that (she) could be.'

Twenty-one years later, after helping the nation win the Cold War and helping thousands of individuals like me, she decided to retire at Fort Stewart.

Among her proudest achievements, aside from her long-standing marriage to Adolphus D. Thomason, are her two children, Dennis Terrell and Qua'Keisha Renae Thomason, who both attend college.

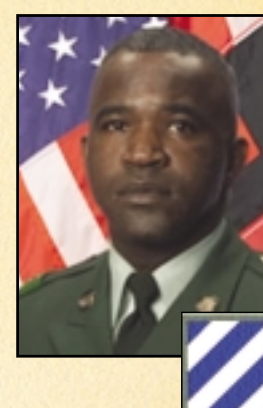
When I returned to Fort Stewart in 2005, I ran into Thomason again and learned she hadn't slowed down but had earned a master's degree in business administration, completed the Army's Intern Program, earned a defense financial manager certification and now proudly works with a professional staff in the Directorate of Logistics.

Black History Month observance program

Poetry Night at Rocky's • 7-10 p.m. Feb 19

Black History Month Observance
11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Feb. 24 at Club Stewart, featuring Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, U.S. Central Command Command Sgt. Maj.

For more information, call Master Sgt. Dawn Charleswell at 767-3247.



Like a scene from a movie set during the Great Depression, Thomason started her days with her Family picking cotton, returning to a crowded house to prepare for the long walk to school. But Thomason was intelligent and loved to learn. She was an honor student and had the support of loving parents.

"My mother was a domestic house keeper, a wonderful and beautiful person, who told me I could be anything I wanted to be, just keep the faith and continuously seek higher education," Thomason told me.

She graduated from high school in 1976 in Nashville, Tenn. and earned an associate

It made me feel happy for her. So, like Mr. Caruso who wrote about Mr. Hall, I too know the difference one person can make.

For community members who want to thank that special person who made a difference in their lives, they can show it too by using the Army's Freedom Team Salute located at freedomteamsalute.org/honor.


The program is a Secretary of the Army and Chief of Staff of the Army program that recognizes U.S. Army veterans, Family Members, employers and other supporters for our Soldiers. In the Web site's words, "Anyone (military or civilian) can honor a U.S. Army veteran or an Army supporter."

Showing your appreciation is just a click away.



Annie Thomason

Moments in history - African-Americans serve at Stewart




Gettysburg

A Snapshot from Fort Stewart's Museum Archives

An all African-American unit at the time of their training, Battery C of the 715th Anti-aircraft Gun Battalion (90mm) originally of the Brooklyn, New York Armory trained at Camp Stewart, Georgia, Sept. 27, 1950 through June 20, 1951.

Among the battalion's lineage and honors are Civil War - Gettysburg campaign streamers.

In 2006 the 715 Veterans Association celebrated their 17th reunion and revisited Stewart.



Civil War

U.S. Army Photographs are Compliments of the Fort Stewart Museum

Graphic by: Spe. MarQues Hunt



Photos by Monica K. Smith

Sergeant Andrew White (left) coaches Pfc. Jacob Oliver, both crew chiefs with Co. C, 4/3 Avn., as Oliver fires a M-240H from the side of a Black Hawk, Feb. 2 at Camp Blanding, Fla.

Aviators train rain or shine

Spc. Monica K. Smith
CAB Public Affairs

The morning began with thin clouds descending on the already wet airfield, Feb. 2 at Camp Blanding, Fla. It wasn't long before it started to rain. A Soldier sighed and said, "If it ain't rainin', we ain't trainin'."

It was the first day of door gunnery training for crew chiefs in Company C, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment.

"This is a new range," said Sgt. Andrew White, crew chief for Co. C, 4/3 Avn. "We're the guinea pigs for this range. We'll do our training, and then they'll make adjustments based off our comments."

The new Crew Combat Range included a series of tanks in the rear of the range, and a target running a quarter of a mile across. To train, each of the three Black Hawks from Co. C, 4/3 Avn., flies across the range with the crew chiefs shooting from the right side of the aircraft. Each participating crew chief is given 400 rounds to fire from the M-240H machine gun mounted in his door. The first 200 rounds are fired in the first fly-by to give them the opportunity to practice and another 200 rounds to qualify during the following flight. They then repeat the range at night using the night vision goggles.

"This is harder than shooting on the ground because we're moving and so is the target," said Pfc. Jacob Oliver, crew chief. "And, you're worried about

the wind a lot more."

Oliver recently moved from Co. D, 4/3 Avn., a maintenance company that provides support to the flight company. His first experience with the M-240H weapon was a month ago when he arrived to Co. C.

"I got to shoot from the ground, but it's different in the air," Oliver said. "We did some (preventive maintenance checks and service) on the 240s during sergeant's time (training) but this is going to be different."

White, who evaluates the gunners in his aircraft, said many new gunners are nervous about shooting, but the nervousness goes away quickly.

"We're evaluating them on their ability to operate the weapon - loading and clearing, and their ability to do all this while doing their duties," White said. "They have to be able to do everything from start up to shut down and still be able to defend the aircraft."

Still, Oliver said he feels confident. Having always wanted to be in aviation, Oliver said he feels prepared and is glad to be a part of a flight company.

"I wanted to go aviation because I wanted to be a pilot," Oliver said. "I heard the best way to be a pilot is to be a Black Hawk or Chinook crew chief, first because they get to fly, but the best part of my job is being able to work with my hero, Sergeant White. He told me that the Co. C Ravens are the baddest air assault in the Army, so here I am."



Private First Class Jacob Oliver, crew chief with Co. C, 4/3 Avn., unloads rounds as he prepares to participate in door gunnery training, Feb. 2 at Camp Blanding, Fla.



A Black Hawk lands at the airfield on Camp Blanding, Fla., Feb. 2 as a part of Co. C, 4/3 Avn. Soldiers' door gunnery training.

Barracks Life: Sometimes it is about fun and games

Commentary

Pfc. Jared S. Eastman
1st BCT Public Affairs

Alright barrack's rats, you're all starting to look like ghosts, and with the quickly approaching spring, it's time to find out what you can do in the greater Coastal Empire, as it's called.

Although there's a plethora of things to do on post ("lazer" tag, rock climbing, bowling and the ever popular "chillin' at the post exchange"), sometimes what a Soldier really needs is a trip off post, to the "Great Unknown," as

it were.

One such unknown is Low Country Paintball in Ludowici, a jump from Fort Stewart, but a trip that is always well worth the efforts it takes to convince a buddy to take you. The greens fees and marker rental are relatively cheap; however, the Pièce de résistance is their scenario games, which they have throughout the paintball season - a long one in southern Georgia.

Their ongoing Harry Potter paintball scenario has been a hit since its conception. This March they are on to book 4.

However, the scenario with the most players is Free Finale, the last game of the season, which takes place in December, you can visit their Web site at locopaintball.com.

But, if Ludowici is too far for you, the high thrills action movie, "Push" is out in theaters and Liberty Cinema is not too far to go while Woodruff theater is undergoing renovations.

If you go to the movies, don't forget to bring cash. They don't take credit cards. However, some do have an on-site automatic teller machine.

But if you want to remain a barracks

rat, there is more than plenty to do within the confines of your room with some of the latest high tech video games.

One of the latest games is Afro Samurai. Samurai, deigned for Playstation 3 and the Xbox 360, will surely give you the holy ungodliness that is Samuel L. Jackson in his newest roll as tail-kicking, human-splitting samurai. The storyline is a prequel to the Anime as well as including a few memorable fights from the series.

Well, that's all barrack's rats; keep your rooms clean and your alarms on.



Spc. Amanda McBride

Staff Sergeant Kyle McKelvey, 4/64 Armor, 4th BCT, leads physical training with his Soldiers, Feb. 9 at Donovan Field. McKelvey, along with other noncommissioned officers throughout the 3rd Infantry Division are being recognized for the jobs they do during the 2009 Year of the NCO.

4th BCT Soldier recognized during Year of the NCO

Spc. Amanda McBride
4th BCT Public Affairs

Throughout the history of the United States Army, noncommissioned officers have always played a vital role in the Army structure.

In an effort to show support for the NCO Corps and to acknowledge the work NCOs contribute on a day-to-day basis, the Secretary of the Army, Pete Geren, has designated 2009 as the Year of the NCO.

In order to highlight the contributions and accomplishments of distinguished NCOs throughout the 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart will be featuring distinguished NCOs who go above and beyond the call of duty.

For the 4th Brigade Combat Team, the honor continues with Staff Sgt. Kyle McKelvey, assigned to 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment.

Being in the Army for more than six years, McKelvey's many experiences have contributed greatly to building the

foundation that has allowed him to become a successful NCO.

What makes a good NCO, according to McKelvey, is the ability to listen actively and to comprehend what you are hearing from your Soldiers.

"The NCO is the backbone of the Army, just as the NCO Creed says," McKelvey said. "And once you get to that position you have that authority. And, once you made it through the ranks you learn how to not abuse that authority and how you can use it to help other Soldiers."

McKelvey said that ultimately, it is an NCO's primary job to take care of his Soldiers.

"(Soldiers) are the ones that are the Army; they're the ones that keep the Army going," McKelvey said. "Take care of (the Soldiers), and they'll take care of you in the long run."

Sergeant Matthew Lheureux, an infantryman assigned to Company B., 4/64 Armor, said the main lesson he has learned from McKelvey has been confi-

dence in becoming an NCO.

"I started out as a (private first class) with (McKelvey) and pretty much he is the one person I have learned from the most since I have been in the Army," Lheureux said. "Anywhere from Family things outside of work to military training."

For McKelvey, he is at a high point in his military career. After recently competing and passing the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club board, an elite group for noncommissioned officers, he is slated to be inducted into the club next week.

Having only been an NCO for four years, McKelvey still has many goals he wants to accomplish during his military career.

His highest goal while in the Army is to someday become the Sergeant Major of the Army. While he strives for that goal himself, McKelvey also pushes the 10 Soldiers he is in charge of to strive for big goals too.

"I make all my Soldiers at one point in time say that they should strive to be

the Sergeant Major of the Army because that is obviously as high as you can go as an enlisted Soldier," McKelvey said. "But reality (is) just to be everything I can be and everything God wants me to be in my life - whether it be Sergeant Major of the Army or whether it be a (command sergeant major) some other place."

**Staff Sergeant
Kyle McKelvey**

Current Position: Infantry squad leader

Current Unit: 4th Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division

Component: Active Army

Current Location: Fort Stewart

Hometown: Chesnee, S.C.

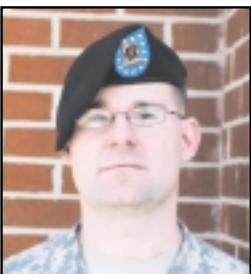
Years of Service: 6

Marne Voices
Speak Out

What do you find significant about your spouse?


"My wife really supports me in my career decisions, probably the best military spouse anyone could have."

Staff Sgt. Richard McFadden
HSC, 603rd ASB




"My wife Johnnie's love embodies supreme happiness, excitement, and completeness of life."


Hubert Quiller
DPTMS



"She moved here from Korea to be with me. That says a lot."


Pvt. James Makatura
2/3 Avn.






"We have been married 19 years and she is a great wife and mother."

Sgt. David Boudreaux
24th Ord.



"My husband has the most amazing voice."

Spc. Becky Duke
1/3 Avn.



"In all of my absences, military and civilian, she kept our Family together "

LeAndre Anderson
Hunter Garrison Operations

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opinion!
Write a letter to
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Ft. Stewart, Ga. 31314

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Veterans' Corner

-Still serving



Former Cav commander still inspires troops

Spc. Michael Adams
3rd ID Public Affairs

Soldiers may not be movie stars, but their stories, battles and lives have been acted out on the big screen by actors like John Wayne, Frank Sinatra and even Bill Murray.

Mel Gibson was the leading star of one well-known Soldier story, “We Were Soldiers.” The movie was based on a book written by a Vietnam veteran who recounted his days as commander of the 1st Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 7th Cavalry. Lieutenant General (Retired) Hal Moore, then a lieutenant colonel, commanded his troops against the North Vietnamese Regular Army in the Ia Drang Valley, giving heavily outnumbered American forces an early decisive victory in the war.

Moore visited Fort Stewart’s Lt. Col. Keith L. Ware Command and Control Facility, Feb. 7 and autographed copies of his book for members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 789.

During his visit, the retired general also spoke about the war in Iraq and gave his advice to the Soldiers cur-

rently fighting the Global War on Terrorism.

“Practice situational awareness,” said Moore. “Be constantly alert, never get complacent, and expect the unexpected.”

The veterans were very excited to see him.

“He’s a heck of a leader,” said Dennis Fitzgerald, a veteran infantryman who served in Vietnam. “He’s a leader you’d never be afraid to follow to battle, the kind of man that comes few and far between.”

Jimmy Waynick, also a Vietnam veteran, shared similar sentiments.

“This is an unbelievable feeling,” said Waynick. “This is the first chance I have had to meet him. It is amazing to finally meet him, I have admired him for 40 years.”

Among other major contributions to the U.S. Army, Moore brought the helicopter to its first major combat operation. Standing before his troops, he introduced a Huey helicopter, telling his Soldiers of the craft, “We will ride into battle, and this will be our horse.”

Moore’s visit to Stewart also included a lecture on leadership in an event sponsored by the 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment.

“Everything in leadership boils down to judgment, intelligence and character,” he said.

While he spoke about leadership, he also spoke about the hard work Soldiers do and how instrumental they were to his career.

“The grunts who do the dog work in the trenches, they are the key to success,” he said.

Moore also spoke about the importance of the non-commissioned officer to the military.

“NCOs are the absolute glue of the Armed Forces and the American military system,” he said. “Sergeants and petty officers are the backbone of the military, where the job gets done day to day; they keep democracy safe.”

People who attended the speech were moved by Moore’s words.

“For me it’s personal,” said Maj. Mike Jason, the operations officer with the 3/7th. “I first saw his lecture at West Point 15 years ago. It’s really neat to hear his words, and to hear how valuable his words were then and are now.

The end of Moore’s lecture was met with a standing ovation.

Entrepreneurship program for disabled veterans offered

Special to the Frontline

The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities www.whitman.syr.edu/ebv/ is an educational program that offers cutting-edge training in entrepreneurship and small business management to post-September 11, 2001 military veterans disabled as a result of their service to our country. The intent of the EBV is to open the door to entrepreneurship and small business ownership to our veterans, by

developing competencies in accounting, human resources, marketing, advertising, financing, small business law, government contracts, and business planning.

The EBV program is offered through a national partnership of exceptional universities: the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University, UCLA Anderson School of Management, Florida State University’s College of Business, Mays Business School at Texas A&M, and the Krannert

School of Management at Purdue University. Each of these world-class business schools will offer the EBV program on their campuses in 2009.

Eligibility requirements can be found at www.whitman.syr.edu/ebv/apply.asp.

Applications are accepted from veterans that have a ‘service-connected disability’ as designated by the Veterans Administration or Department of Defense.


The program is open to military serv-

ice after September 2001 for those who have a passion for entrepreneurship.

The program is free for veterans, including travel, lodging, meals, and all program costs.

Successful candidates for admission will demonstrate a strong interest in entrepreneurship, high motivation for owning and managing a business, and a high likelihood of successful completion of this intense training program. For specific application requirements, visit www.whitman.syr.edu/ebv/.

Check out The Frontline online at www.stewart.army.mil.



Ft. Stewart/Hunter Morale, Welfare & Recreation

T-Ball Coach Pitch Baseball Registration @ HAAF
9 Feb. thru 13 Mar – Hunter Youth Center, Bldg 1289
Register for the Hunter Youth T-Ball/Baseball season which begins in mid-April and continues thru mid-June. Play for coed teams (ages 5-12), held at Hunter and Jewish Educational Alliance in Savannah. Cost: \$25 per player. 315-5851.

Valentine’s Day Dinner @ HAAF
14 Feb., 6:30 p.m. – Hunter Club, Bldg 6015
Be My Valentine! Children, invite your Parents to a special dinner. Let’s have an evening of fun, games, craft & much more. Menu features chicken fingers w/hooney mustard & ranch, macaroni & cheese, buttered corn, herb roasted chicken, mashed potato w/ gravy, vegetables medley and cake. Cost \$10 per person. Reservations are required. Space is limited, so reserve your seat by Feb 13. 459-7923

Pre-Teen Sweetheart Dance @ FS
14 Feb., 7 - 10 p.m. – FS Youth Center, Bldg 7338
Pre-Teens (grades 5-7) invited to the dress to impress sweetheart dance. No T-shirts, jeans or tennis shoes allowed. Cost \$2 members and \$3 non-members. For details, call 767-4491.

Mardi Gras Sunday Brunch @ HAAF
15 Feb., 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. – Hunter Club, Bldg 6015
Join us for a taste of New Orleans in Georgia. Menu features breakfast items, gumbo w/white rice, Creole chicken, dirty rice, Muffalata & Po Boy sandwiches, ham hocks & red beans, crepe station w/assorted fillings, king cake, crème Brulee and beignets. Cost \$11.95 per person, children (ages 5-10) half price and (ages 4 & under) Free. 459-7923

Mardi Gras Kids Cooking Class @ HAAF
15 Feb., 3 - 5 p.m. – Hunter Club, Bldg 6015
Join us for an afternoon of fun, games, crafts and more. Cost \$5 per child (ages 5-12). Reservations required (Limited space), call 459-7923.

Author to Speak at FS Book Club
19 Feb., 7 - 8 p.m. – George P. Hays Library, Bldg 411
Lisa Dumas Harris, author and owner of small publishing company, Independent Visions of Richmond Hill, will be guest speaker at Book Club for adults. Harris is the author of the fiction novels “Only Time Can Tell,” “Finding My Way” and “It Ain’t Easy.” Book club, normally limited to 20 patrons, is open to anyone interested in meeting the guest speaker. 767-2828.

Holocaust Survivor Speaker for CYSS Program @ HAAF
19 Feb., 7 - 8 p.m. – Hunter Club, Bldg 6015
Chaim Melemed, who was in a concentration camp during World War II as a teenager, will tell of his experiences. Considering subject matter, parent advisory recommended. Talk concludes with Q&A session. Prior to that (5:30-6:30 p.m.) educator/author Jill Dixon will speak, plus science activities by Benedictine Military School. Child, Youth & School Services program will include discussion on starting a home school support group at Hunter. Refreshments available. 315-6586.

**“Tell Me a Story” Program for
Young Children Reservations @ FS**
Reservations by 19 Feb.; Program 22 Feb., 2 p.m. – Club Stewart, Bldg 405
Come listen to “Tell Me A Story,” a story of young boy who along with his Family works at a painful salt mine, but more than anything else wants to learn to read. Each attending Family receives copy of book. Open to DoD ID cardholders. Program designed to empower youth (grades K-5) and foster skills for resilience, strong peer and parent connections, sense of pride and accomplishment. Collaboration between Military Child Education Coalition & FS/HAAF CYSS. Limited Space. Reserve space by 19 Feb @ (912) 385-3564 or “andyandnuth28@aol.com”. For information, call 767-6533.

Moonlite Skating @ FS
21 Feb., 8 p.m. - 1 a.m. – Corkan Family Fun Center, Bldg 449
Skate until the wee hours, when the lights are low but colorful. Cost \$5 per person includes skate rental. Youths, remember to ask your parents. 767-9884

Petroleum specialists essential to the fight

Warrant Officer Tyronne Haslett
260th Quartermaster Battalion

When you think of “elite Soldiers,” you normally think of Rangers and members of Special Operation units. Petroleum laboratory specialists may not be among the most obvious.

But behind every super hero, there are heroes — Soldiers who provide support in the war-fighting effort, Soldiers who sacrifice and persevere in jobs without glamour, Soldiers who are essential to the mission - to say the least. But no mission, regardless of importance or magnitude, is accomplished without the tenacious efforts of petroleum laboratory specialists, mission occupational skill 92L.

The eight 92L Soldiers assigned to the 260th Quartermaster Battalion have exceeded Army standards. For the past three and one-half years, they distinguished themselves by receiving 100 percent accuracy ratings in the Tactical Inter-Laboratory Correlation Program five of the six times they participated. No other organization has achieved that record over such a short period of time. The Army Petroleum Center developed this program to measure a Soldier's ability to conduct critical MOS task testing and to determine the accuracy of its equipment.

The petroleum laboratory specialist begins his specialty by completing a nine-week, four-day course at Fort Lee, Va. He learns to conduct extensive technical and physical laboratory petroleum fuels testing in accordance with test methods of the American Society for Testing and Materials. Fuel must meet certain specifications before it can be approve for military use; otherwise, it can cause severe

damage to equipment, hinder mis- sions, wound or kill fellow Soldiers. Without a certified 92L Soldier's approval, military equipment cannot receive fuel from Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine-owned petroleum distribution systems. That means that every mission, logistical or those directly related to combat, would come to a screeching halt.

The unique skills of 92L Soldiers also enable them to help investigators determine causes of major tactical catastrophes such as aircraft crashes or downed vehicles. The causes range from fuel contamination, improper maintenance or storage to the use of an unauthorized distribution method. Because fuel contamination is the first avenue of an investigation, it creates additional incentive for petroleum professionals to perform their duties to a level of excellence. They perform them under extreme scrutiny, rarely failing a mission. Their duties demand constant reinforcement training so they can attain mastery over 50 indi- vidual test methods used to determine fuel quality.

Services of petroleum laboratory specialists are needed at every duty station.

Imagine arriving to your new duty station to find no thundering sounds of aircraft hovering in the distance, no tactical vehicles moving in uniformed fashion, or no operational generators to heat or cool your workplace. Military installations would not accomplish the duties their missions require.

That's why some consider the value and mission of petroleum laboratory specialists more than support; some place them among the elite.



Spc. Gaelen Lowers

3rd Sustainment Brigade Soldiers support JROTC

Richmond Hill High School Junior Reserve Officer Candidate stu- dents practice drill and ceremony at a 3rd Sustainment Brigade spon- sored event, Feb. 7.

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DHR Spotlight: *Roosevelt Dunn*

Courtesy of DHR

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Directorate of Human Resources has a trained staff dedicated to helping Soldiers and community members.

Roosevelt Dunn Jr. is responsible for managing all enlisted reassignments at Hunter Army Airfield, building 1211, at the Personnel Processing Branch.

Dunn was born in Dayton, Ohio and remains an Ohio State Buckeyes fan. He served 20 years and six days in the Army as a Senior Human Resource Manager and retired in July 2005 as a sergeant first class.

His assignments included Fort Lee, Va. Fort Rucker, Ala.; Italy; two tours in



Korea; Fort Huachuca, Ariz.; Fort Stewart; and one tour in Iraq.

Dunn started his second career as a federal employee in January 2006 serving in the Stewart garrison S-1. He attended Columbia College since retiring and in completed a bachelors of science degree in business administration, with a emphasis

in management.

Dunn was recently selected to attend the Army Management Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., for the resident continuing education system basic course. Dunn wants to continue sharing his experience and knowledge with community members.

DES Spotlight: *Letter from the Installation Provost Marshal*

Dear Friends:

Whether you or a loved one has recently returned from a long deployment far from home, or if you've recently arrived from another installation, your safety and well-being are very important to the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield community.

The U.S. celebrates Washington's birthday on Feb. 16 with many folks enjoying a well-deserved long weekend. As you celebrate, please know that the Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Directorate of Emergency Services is committed to ending the tragedy of impaired driving and continues to partner with neighboring law enforcement agencies for an intensive crackdown on impaired drivers.

Law Enforcement officers will be out in abundance, on-post and off-post, actively seeking impaired drivers, and if you exceed the limit, you will be arrested.

Impaired driving is not only unnecessarily risky behavior that conveys potentially deadly consequences, it can also result in a number of severe punitive actions. In addition to automatic revocation of your on-post driving privileges for at least 12-months, a mandatory General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand, and the possibility of disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, being arrested for driving under the

influence in Georgia could also result in civilian prosecution with the following penalties:

- A monetary fine of at least \$300.
- Jail time of up to 12-months.
- Community Service of at least 20-hours.
- Completion of a State-approved DUI program at your expense.
- Suspension of Georgia driver's license for at least 120-days.

Additionally, always maintain awareness of other drivers and drive defensively, especially during this long weekend. Motorists are encouraged to safely report dangerous driving to law enforcement.

Off-post: Contact the Georgia State Patrol anytime, day or night, by dialing *477. This free call connects you with the nearest GSP post to your location.

On-post: Contact either the Fort Stewart Police Department at 767-4895 or the Hunter Army Airfield Police Department at 315-6133 anytime, day or night.

Let's all help make this holiday the safest ever on our roadways. Remember, buzzed driving is drunk driving. Think before you get behind the wheel and designate a sober driver, call a friend, call a cab, or call your unit, but don't drink and drive!

Sean W. Strate
Director, Emergency Services

Education program offered

The Army has been selected by Congress to participate in an education pilot program designed to provide additional ways to expand education opportunities. Soldiers, officers and Wounded Warriors serving on active duty, to include National Guard and Reserve Soldiers on extended active duty, may acquire technical, vocational, or advanced training and re-training.

This short-term pilot program is intended to provide training in high-

demand career fields to help Soldiers find employment after they transition out of the Army.

Army Education is working with technical and community colleges throughout the United States to build upon existing programs and develop new pilot re-training in career occupations, such as rehabilitation, nursing, medical technology, and other health care occupations. Although the Army Vocational/Technical Web site launched Jan. 15, Army Education Centers and Soldier Family Assistance Centers are now assisting Soldiers with enrollment.

Risk Reduction Program

Bill MacDonald

Directorate of Human Resources

Risk reduction is a factor in maintaining the worlds finest Army. At Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, the Directorate of Human Resources tries to assist in that venue to protect its community members through support programs.

The Stewart-Hunter risk reduction program is a centralized contract through Installation Command and operates through the Army substance abuse programs.

Located on the second floor of the Sgt. Audie Murphy Soldier Service Center, the RRP can be reached by phone at 767-4206, 767-5903 or 767-3680.

The RRP is a commander's program designed to assist units in identifying high risk areas. The program collects data from several high risk areas, compiles the data and compares the data with higher commands and the Army as a whole. Units with areas that may affect their readiness for deployment are approached by the program coordinator and other members of the Human Resource Council consisting of subject matter experts in each of the areas where the data revealed issues.

The team works with the command in developing appropriate interventions to address the identified areas and assist in keeping their unit mission ready and Army strong.

The Stewart-Hunter risk reduction program has four components, including data collection and analysis; command consultation; intervention and delivery; and Unit Risk Inventory/Re-integration-URI survey delivery and assessment.

The data collection and analysis phase of the RRP is the most important. The data collected from installation sources has to be correct and accurate. The risk reduction reports are prepared from this data and

commanders are briefed from them.

Data sources need to understand the importance of their job as data providers. Once the data is input into the Army Centers for Substance Abuse Prevention "Risk" Web application, reports are generated and analysis begins.

The Web system produces many different reports, each displaying the data in a different manner. It is important to look at all the reports and not just one when analyzing the data. Another important point is that the HRC needs to do the analysis in a team format and not by any one person. The subject matter expert's have a lot of knowledge about individual units that does not show up on the risk reports.

Reports are analyzed by the HRC and proposed interventions are developed. The team identifies the appropriate SMEs tasked with briefing commanders via the desk side approach, conveying statistical reports and recommended intervention strategies.

The commander implements an intervention delivery system designed to thoroughly address the reported Soldier high-risk behaviors. Unit leaders and HRC members work together within training and deployment schedules to ensure efficient intervention delivery. Results of the strategies are evaluated, adjusted, and effectively re-implemented.

The forth part of the program is delivery and analysis of the URI or R-URI's which are a Soldier self assessment of their own risky behavior. This is a very useful tool in the development of interventions due to the anonymity of the survey.

This survey takes about 30 minutes and should be scheduled around the 90-day mark of redeployment and the thirty day mark prior to deployment. Commanders can schedule their unit by calling the RRP office.

Don't discuss classified or sensitive information over an unsecure telephone line.

Think OPSEC!

Education Matters

Directorate of Human Resources

Spouses’ Clubs announce scholarships

The Enlisted Spouses’ Club sponsors the annual Rita Ackerman Scholarship Award. Five hundred dollars is given to the spouse of an active, retired, or deceased enlisted Soldier residing in the Fort Stewart area. A selection committee will award the merit-based scholarship based on academic records, transcripts, letters of recommendation, volunteer activities and an essay written by the applicant. Applications are available at the Stewart-Hunter education centers and must be postmarked no later than April 1. For more information, click on www.fortstewartesc.com.

The Officer’s Spouses’ Club awards merit-based scholarships for deserving eligible Family Members of all active, retired or deceased military of the Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield communities.

There are four categories of applicants:high school seniors, continuing undergraduate, undergraduate spouse and graduate spouse continuing education. Applications are at local high schools, Army Community Services, the Stewart/Hunter education centers, and the OSC Web site: thesteelmagnolia.org. The application deadline is March 18. This is a merit-based scholarship; financial need is not a consideration.

Brewton-Parker to visit

A representative from Brewton-Parker will meet with current or prospective students from 11a.m. to 7 p.m., Feb. 26 at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center. You may reach the Dean of External Programs, Dr. Jeff Edgens at jedgens@bpc.edu or by calling 800-342-1087, ext. 3243.

Transition-to-Teachers sessions slated

The Georgia Troops to Teachers Program provides federal funding to qualified servicemembers of up to \$10,000 for becoming public school teachers. Bill Kirkland conducts monthly Transition to Teaching 90-minute classes that consist of an overview of programs, registration procedures and Georgia teacher certification options.

This includes the Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program. GaTAPP is a two-year program that allows those with bachelor degrees to teach and certify at the same time. All military spouses are invited, but they must register with the Military OneSource Center to be provided any financial support. The briefing begins at 10 a.m. and is held at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. Scheduled sessions are Feb. 25, and March 18. Call 1-800-745-0709 for more information. The official website is www.tttga.net.

Teaching certification seminar offered

The Liberty Center Director of Teacher Education Program will conduct Georgia teacher certification seminars focusing on the Amstrong Atlantic State University Master of Arts in Teaching program. The M.A.T. allows those eligible individuals to pursue a graduate degree and obtain initial teacher certification in Georgia.

The monthly sessions are held at 5 p.m. at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center, building 100. Future seminars will be conducted Feb. 25 and March 18. For more information, please contact Don Stumpf, Director of Teacher Education Programs at 877-1910 or e-mail Don.Stumpf@armstrong.edu.

Spouse-to-Teachers Program

The Spouse to Teachers Program was initially a pilot program that proved so successful that the Department of Defense is now expanding the program to be included in the future Military Spouse Career Advancement Account Program. Under the upcoming MSCAAP, Military spouses will have access to funds up to \$6,000 over a two-year period to put toward education and training for teacher certification.

The Spouse to Teachers Program transitioned to the Military OneSource Center. The consultants will provide career and education guidance for active duty Military spouses. Spouses can call Military OneSource (1-800-342-9647) for more information.

Apply for commissary scholarship

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Families has another education opportunity available through the Commissary Scholarship Program for Military Children, which is now open. Scholarship applications are available in commissaries worldwide and online through www.commissaries.com or www.militaryscholar.org.

Family Members, unmarried children (under the age 23) of active duty personnel, Reserve/Guard and retired military members, survivors of servicemembers who died while on active duty or survivors of individuals who died while receiving retired pay from the military may apply for a scholarship.

All applicants must be planning to attend, or already be attending, an accredited college or university full time in the Fall of 2009, or be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program.

Applications are due by Feb. 18.

For more information about the scholarships, visit www.commissaries.com/press_room/press_release/2008/DeCA_121_08.cfm.

One week, daytime courses available

Central Texas College is now offering one semester hour daytime college classes that you can complete in just five days! Classes meet for three hours and are available during the mornings or afternoons.

Materials are included; you do not have to purchase textbooks. This is a great opportunity to earn elective credits for general studies, computer and management degrees. Computer studies and military related management courses will run throughout January at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center, and Hunter Army Airfield education center. Active duty Soldiers using tuition assistance must meet with an education counselor for a course override.

For a list of upcoming courses, go to your education center or call 767-2070 at Stewart or 459-5181 at Hunter.

Tuition allowance made available

All active-duty servicemembers have \$4,500 per fiscal year available for education. This entitlement is separate from the Montgomery GI Bill benefits offered by the Veterans Administration.

Details are covered at 1:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, during a one-hour briefing at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. For information, call 767-8331 at Stewart or 315-6130 at Hunter.

College classes for warriors offered

The Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith and Hunter Army Airfield education centers are supporting Warriors in Transition by offering accelerated daytime college courses. The classes are being conducted by Central Texas College. To enroll, warriors must sign up through the GoArmyEd portal online. Soldiers attached to Fort Stewart’s Warrior Transition Unit will be temporarily served at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Army Education Center, building 100. For more information, call 767-8331.Soldiers stationed at Hunter can contact Fay Ward at the Education Center, building 1290 or call 315-6130. Their hours are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also contact the counselors in building 100 at Stewart, 767-8331.

Apply for HOPE Grant

The Georgia HOPE Grant is money given by the state of Georgia to students with financial needs to attend vocational/trade schools. The grant covers certificate and diploma programs. Any Soldier or Family Member of a Soldier who is stationed in Georgia may be eligible. Visit online at www.gsfc.org.

Free, discounted courses made available

Columbia College Spouse’s Opportunity Scholarship provides spouses of military personnel a tuition waiver for the initial classroom “in seat” course at both the

Stewart and Hunter education center sites. It is not necessary for the active-duty servicemember to be a Columbia College student.

In addition, Columbia offers a 20 percent tuition discount for “in-seat” classes only to spouses of active duty, National Guard and Reserve military personnel.

For more information on this and other spouse opportunities Columbia College provides, visit www.ccis.edu/military/spouses.asp. Then arrange to meet with an academic advisor by calling 877-3406 at Stewart or 352-8635 at Hunter.

Savannah Tech info sessions held

Savannah Technical College is offering weekly information sessions to explain their college, certificate, diploma programs and the HOPE/PELL grants.

The college representatives will highlight a different program of study every other Tuesday, 2 p.m. in room 206, building 100, Fort Stewart. The next session is Feb. 17 for criminal justice. While the majority of courses are held at the Liberty Campus on Airport Road, many classes are conducted at the Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith Education Center. Some computer and general education courses are offered online. For more information, go to www.savannahtech.edu and www.gsfc.org or call 408-2430 at Stewart. You may also contact Savannah Tech in Hinesville at 408-3024 or 443-5700.

Green-to-Gold briefing slated

The Green-to-Gold briefings are held at the installation education centers every month. On Stewart the briefings are 2 p.m., the first and third Thursday of each month. The Hunter briefings are 2 p.m., the second and fourth Thursday.

Spouse scholarship slated

Central Texas College will provide free tuition for up to 30 semester hours in one year, for spouses of Purple Heart recipients. Scholarship applications are being accepted now. To verify eligibility, qualifying spouses must present a copy of the military member’s Department of Defense Form 214 or orders reflecting the award of a Purple Heart since September 2001, marriage license, Department of Defense identification card or other photo ID. The scholarship covers in or out-of-state tuition and mandatory fees. More information is available on the CTC Web site at www.ctcd.edu/militaryspouses. The scholarship application will be available online and at all CTC locations; Fort Stewart, 876 4045 or Hunter, 315-4095.



Kaytrina Curtis

A teen and preteen Valentine's jam was held at the Hunter Army Airfield Youth Center Feb. 7. The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield youth centers offer a variety of activities ranging from classes to dances. Learn more by calling Child and Youth School Services at 767-2312 for Fort Stewart, or 315-5425 at Hunter Army Airfield.

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Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Briefs

Marne tax centers available

Open now through April 15 for free tax preparation for active-duty Soldiers, retirees and eligible Family Members. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Walk-in and drop-off services are available. Call 315-3675 for information and appointments at Hunter Army Airfield, or 767-1040 for Fort Stewart.

Sign up for OSC scholarship

Applications available for The Fort Stewart Military Family Member Scholarship Fund. Any military Family Member continuing their education is eligible. For more information, or to make your application, visit www.thesteelmagnolia.org. The deadline for applying is March 18.

Go Green-to-Gold

Learn about the 3rd Infantry Division Commanding General's Direct Select to Officer Candidate School option. Applications will be accepted through May 8 through unit S-1s. Learn more about by visiting usmilitary.about.com/od/armytrng.

Remember fallen heroes with 5K,10K races

A 10-kilometer, 5K and 1K Fun Run, scheduled March 28 at the Reunion Golf Community Subdivision, Hoschton, Ga., is sponsored by Operation One Voice and The Reunion Golf Community to generate funds for military Families whose loved ones have paid the ultimate sacrifice for our nation's freedom.

The 10K race is a qualifier for the 2010 Peachtree Road Race. If interested in participating, get race times and costs at the registration site, www.active.com.

SAMC supports homeless

The Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Sgt. Audie Murphy Club is holding a winter donation event now until Feb. 12 to help the homeless. Club representatives Staff Sgt. Ryan Hellman, 610-2744; Sgt. Maj. Sherman Roberts, 435-9696; and Master Sgt. Terrance Clay, 767-0536 invite community members to donate blankets, sleeping bags, jackets and sweaters, long undershirts, hats, gloves, scarves and other winter garments toward the cause. Individuals who want to contribute can call one of the points of contact.

Babysitting classes offered

Teens (13 and older) who would like to be trained and certified as babysitters will have opportunities at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. The Hunter babysitting course is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., March 28-29 at the School Age Youth Services, building 1289. For registration information and course details, call 315-5425.

On Fort Stewart, the training is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., June 8-9 and June 22-23 at the Youth Center, building 7338. For registration information and course details, call 767-2312. There is no charge for the training. Upon completion of all required training, teens will receive a Red Cross first aid/infant and child CPR certification, which is necessary to become a certified babysitter.

Stewart

Sign up for co-ed volleyball

Sign-up continues through March 18 for intramural co-ed volleyball play. League competition is scheduled March 30 through April 30. Games will be played at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday at

Newman Fitness Center, building 439. League is open to all Department of Defense ID cardholders. Family Members must be 17 or older. For more information, call 767-8238.

Divorce Care Group kicks off

The 3rd Infantry Division Family Life Chaplain's office kicks off the Divorce Care Group with a meeting 4 p.m., Feb. 19 at the Main Post Chapel. Food will be provided. Divorce Care is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. Do not go through separation or divorce alone. Divorce Care groups meet weekly 5:30 – 7 p.m. to help you face these challenges and move toward rebuilding your life. For more information or to reserve your place at this kick-off meeting, call Family Life Chaplain (Maj.) Terry Romine at 767-3610 or 435-9917.

MCEC - Tell Me a Story Sunday

Third Infantry Division's Command Sergeant Major Jesse Andrews will be Military Child Education Coalition guest reader 2-3 p.m., Feb. 22 at Club Stewart. The book is *More Than Anything Else* by Marie Bradby, a tribute to dreaming and the life of Booker T. Washington will be the story.

Every Family that participates will take home a hardcopy of the book. You must have a reservation to attend this event. Call now to reserve your spot. Call Ruth DeUnger, 385-9564 or (910) 391-522; or send an e-mail to AndyandRuth28@aol.com for more information.

Experience Poetry Night

Voice your poetic talent at Poetry Night, 7 - 10 p.m., Feb. 19 at Rocky's. Themes include 'Quest for Citizenship in America' and 'Year of the NCO.' The winner of the competition will be honored at the upcoming Black History Month Observance slated for 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Feb. 24 at Club Stewart's Main Ball Room. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Dawn Charleswell, 3rd Sustainment Brigade Equal Opportunity Advisor, at 767-8140.

Join Old Guard

The Old Guard is currently accepting applications for the following military occupational specialties: 11B10/20/30/40, 25M30, 25U20/40, 25V20, 31B10/20/30/40, 35F30, 42A20/30,44B10, 44C10/30, 45B10, 46R20/30, 52D10/20, 63X40, 68W20/30/40, 74D20, 88M10, 88N20/30, 89B20/40, 92G10/20, 92S10/20, and 92Y10/30. There is a 36-month service-remaining requirement for duty at the Old Guard. Apply at www.army.mil/oldguard. To learn more, call Master Sgt. James Warner at (703)696-3050.

Storytime at Stewart slated

The Military Child Education Coalition presents Storytime – when children hear stories and make crafts – from 9:30-10:30 a.m., Feb. 17 and 24. Storytime is held at the George P. Hays Library, building 411. For more information, call 767-2828.

Pre-K Applications available

Applications for Pre-Kindergarten classes in the Savannah Chatham County Public School System are available from Feb. 2 - March 16 at various elementary schools in Savannah. Funding from the Ga. Lottery provides a limited number of Pre-Kindergarten classes to be held at Savannah-Chatham schools. Children are selected through a lottery process held at the Pre-K sites at 10 a.m., March 18. To find out where to

obtain applications and for lottery drawing locations, call 395-5600 or contact David Smith at Hunter Army Airfield at david.sherwood.smith@us.army.mil.

Hunter

MCEC institute offered

The registration deadline is Feb. 24 for the Military Child Education Coalition Special Education Leaders Institute, scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., March 5-6 at Hunter Club, building 6015.

The participation of educators, child care providers and social workers is encouraged so they might gain a better understanding of challenges associated with transitioning military connected students who have special needs. There is no charge, and meals are provided. Register at www.militarychild.org, 315-6586.

Enjoy Mardi Gras brunch

A Mardi Gras Sunday Brunch will be held from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Feb. 15 at Hunter Club, building 6015. Join us for a taste of New Orleans in Georgia. The menu features breakfast items, gumbo w/white rice, Creole chicken, dirty rice, Muffalata and more. The cost is \$11.95 per person, children (ages 5-10) eat half price and under 4 and free. For more information, call 459-7923.

MOAA Scholarship Program offered

The Military Officer Association of America will award 25 grants of \$1,000 each for the 2009-2010 school year. Applicants must be the dependent child of an active duty member or a drilling Reserve/National Guard members, officer or enlisted, of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, United States Public Health Service or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Applications are available on-line at www.moaa.org/education. The deadline is noon, March 2.

Learn about Savannah schools

Individual Specialty Program Schools (formerly Magnet Schools) host open houses now through Feb. 3; registration deadline is Feb. 20. To find open house schedules at the school of your choice, go to www.sccpss.com or call Dave Smith at 767-6533.

Spouses' Club holds luncheon

A Valentine luncheon is scheduled 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Feb. 10 at the Hunter Club. The cost is \$11. There is \$1 off lunch for special guest, 1st Battalion 10th Aviation, 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation, and 3rd Squadron, 17 Cavalry. This month the club will make a donation in support of the Savannah Rape Crisis Center. Make your reservation for lunch and child care at 756-3179; indicate child care interest at time of registration.

Human remains discovered at Hunter

A re-interment ceremony will be held 3 p.m., Feb. 20 at Hunter Army Airfield's Belmont Cemetery. This re-interment ceremony will respectfully commemorate the reinterment of 367 human remains that were discovered along Neal Blvd. Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield officials and the Savannah District, Army Corps of Engineers Aug. 30, conducted a public scoping event that included a presentation to the public on the initial discovery of the human remains. The public is invited to attend this re-interment ceremony.

For further details, please contact the Hunter Army Airfield Public Affairs Office at 315-3739.

Tea party slated

It is tea time 4 p.m., Feb. 26 at the Southern Oaks Community Center and 4 p.m., Feb. 17 at the Hunter leasing office. Mom, bring your daughter to our old fashioned tea party just like the ones you had as a girl.

Help the environment

BBC invites community members to help the environment. BBC at Fort Stewart is providing each resident a recycling bin to be placed in their new apartment. For more information, call 408-2501.

Enjoy Monte Carlo Night



Sgt. Joseph McAtee

Third Infantry Division Commander Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo purchases the first pair of tickets to the Fort Stewart Officers' Spouses' Club Monte Carlo Casino Night with Mrs. Laura Rittenhouse, an OSC member, at division headquarters Feb. 5.

The Fort Stewart Officers' Spouses' Club will sponsor Monte Carlo Casino Night, 7-11 p.m., March 6 at Club Stewart, building 405. The OSC welcomes all of the military community as well as the general public to this event.

Attendees are encouraged to strut their stuff down our red carpet in their best 'dressy casual' outfits for a night of charity and fun. Tickets will be \$15 in advance (purchase at Shop of the Marne) or \$20 the day of the event.

Balfour Beatty
Communities



Make a Valentine's Day card

Come make special Valentine's Day cards for loved ones, 3:30 p.m., today at the Southern Oaks Community Center. We'll be taking a picture of you and printing them out for you to insert in your card.

Soldiers, Families, leaders improve Army quality of life

Rob McIlvaine
FMWRC Public Affairs

ALEXANDRIA, Va. – Arriving from garrisons as far away as Korea, 117 delegates came together last week to discuss issues, listen to subject matter experts provide background information on new and old issues, and ultimately make the Army a better place for Families to call home through a process called the Army Family Action Plan.

The U.S. Army has been celebrating the 25th anniversary of the creation of AFAP since Aug.15. On that date in 1983, the U.S. Army Chief of Staff, General John A. Wickham, wrote a ground-breaking white paper titled “The Army Family,” which identified the need for the Army to increase support to its Families.

General Wickham and his staff asserted that a healthy Family environment allows Soldiers to concentrate more fully on their mission.

In 1983, the Army was transforming from an organization of conscripted and short-term enlistees comprised of mostly unmarried military members (with a 10 percent re-enlistment rate) to an all-volunteer, professional force consisting of more than 50 percent married personnel.

“We’ve come a long way from a time when the Army said, ‘If you’re married, you can’t join. If you get married while in the Army, you can’t re-enlist,’” said Secretary of the Army Pete Geren to the AFAP delegates made up of Soldiers, Family Members, wounded warriors, retirees and delegates representing Army Families.

“The all-volunteer force required us to think very differently about many aspects of the Army and certainly Family support,” Geren said.

At the first AFAP symposium, the attendees identified 65 issues. Over the past 25 years, AFAP has dealt with a total of 633 issues.

The work groups deliberated on issues last week under the headings of Benefits and Entitlements, Facilities and Housing, Employment, Force Support, Family Support, and Medical and Dental.

The Family Support, Medical and Dental work groups were divided into two work groups each because of the volume of issues they were discussing.

Over 90 percent of AFAP issues are resolved at the local level, with more than 61 percent of the active issues impacting all sister services. Since 1983, AFAP has resulted in 107 changes to national legislation, 154 revised Department of Defense or Army regulations and policies, and 173 improvements to programs and services.

Currently, according to Tricia Brooks, the HQDA AFAP Issue Manager, there are 435 issues completed, with 118 unattainable, 75 still active, and five issues combined.

“The top five are just a sub-section of the 16 that were brought into the AFAP by delegate prioritization,” said Brooks. “They are just like the other 11 entered into AFAP. The only difference is that the top five will be on the June 2009 AFAP General Officer Steering Committee agenda to identify the actions and plans to resolve them.”

On Tuesday, the GOSC took 23 of the 75 of the active issues to decide the status for each issue: Completed,



Rob McIlvaine

Colonel Jimmie Keenan, Chief of Staff, Army Medical Action Plan, Army Medical Department, Office of the Surgeon General, listens as Captain Fayette Frahm, former company commander of a hospital in Iraq, speaks about areas of concern for Warriors in Transition.

Unattainable, or Active.

Attendees at the meeting included senior officials from the Department of Defense, Department of the Army, and representatives from Army Staff and Army commands.

Following the conclusion of the conference, the Army’s Vice Chief of Staff will post a summary of the meeting at Army OneSource, on the AFAP page.

At the conference opening session, Geren thanked the delegates for “bringing these issues up as you have over the last 25 years and making sure

your voices are heard. I thank you for making the greatest contribution to the cause of freedom. Our nation owes you a great debt,” Geren said.

“The Army of today doesn’t look like the Army of 1973 in so many ways. You have helped to make the Army work for Families.”

To get involved in improving the quality of life for Soldiers and Families, contact your local Family Programs or Army Community Service office to learn how to participate in AFAP.

Top five AFAP issues address Army-wide concerns

Staff Report

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield were participants at the Army Family Action Plan process that culminated in the Department of the Army AFAP conference held in Alexandria, Va. (See next week’s edition of The Frontline to learn how Stewart-Hunter issues fared at the HQDA level.)

Stewart-Hunter is currently working on the 2009 input derived from the installation’s conference, Nov. 12 -14. The issues from that conference will be elevated to

the mid-level conference (U.S. Army Forces Command), in March 2009.

Results from community involvement can be seen in the 2008 Army-wide results. The Top five Army-wide results for 2008 included:

Bereavement Permissive Temporary Duty

Currently, military leave category for bereavement does not exist. Despite multiple permissive TDY categories, none authorize non-chargeable bereavement leave.

The recommendation sent forward to Army leadership was to establish a permissive TDY category for bereavement.

Official Photographs for Soldiers

The Army only requires an official DA photograph at certain grade levels. In the event of a Soldier’s death, there is not always an official photograph available to provide the media. Having an official photograph on file for all Soldiers would ensure Soldiers are portrayed in a dignified and respectful manner.

The recommendation sent to Army leadership is to mandate a professional-quality official or semi-official head and shoulder photograph for all Soldiers.

Storage for Soldiers

A significant number of Soldiers residing in barracks lack sufficient secure, accessible storage for their Organizational Clothing and Individual Equipment and personal items. Lack of storage outside the Soldiers’ authorized living space negatively affects their quality

of life by forcing them to live in overcrowded conditions.

The AFAP delegates recommended to Army leadership that the garrisons provide secure, accessible storage space for Soldiers’ OCIE in a location separate from living space.

Shortages of Medical Providers

Demand for healthcare exceeds provider availability in MTFs. The Army’s projected growth will increase this demand. The recommendations to Army leadership were to expedite staffing of military, civilian, and contracted medical providers to support prioritized needs as identified by the MTF Commander, and to implement new strategies for recruiting and retaining medical providers for MTFs.

Availability of Respite Care for Wounded

Standardized respite care is not available to all Wounded Warrior caregivers. Caregivers of Wounded Warriors commonly suffer burn-out and compassion fatigue. A Soldier’s ability to sustain activities of daily living is directly associated with the well-being of the caregiver.

AFAP delegates forwarded a recommendation to Army leadership to provide uniform availability of standardized respite care to all caregivers of Wounded Warriors. The Army staff will identify the actions/plans necessary to determine how these issues are resolved, and ensure those actions take place if it can. AFAP issues require an average of three years to resolve.

Many require policy changes at the Department of the Army or Department of Defense level, and some issues require legislative changes in order to come to a resolution. The GOSC meets two times a year to review the progress and status of current AFAP issues.



Rob McIlvaine

Pete Geren, Secretary of the Army, speaks with members of the Army Teen Panel, who brought the concerns of Army youth world-wide, plus enthusiasm, considerable experience and creativity to the AFAP conference.

3SB units get ready



Courtesy photo

Specialist Hector Diaz and Pvt. Michael Meister from Headquarters, Headquarters Detachment, 260th Quartermaster Battalion set up a Very Small Aperture Terminal for configuration and testing prior to their National Training Center rotation.

Capt. Joe Caldwell

Left: Firefighters from the 24th Ordnance Company, 87th Combat Service Support Battalion conduct basic extracting training with Savannah Fire Department Search and Rescue Teams at a local salvage yard in Savannah, Ga.

Experience helps clear the way for training

Connie Benson
Frontline Contributor

The Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security Training Division, Range Control has the responsibility for the management of the huge training area at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield and does that with environmentally conscious plans and a professional staff.

The process used to maintain the ranges is part of the Integrated Training Area Management Program, a Department of the Army initiative designed to provide enhanced environmental compliance and sustainment of the Army regarding improvements to land related training facilities and ranges.

The Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance, the execution arm of ITAM, has many challenges according to Thomas D. Houston, the LRAM Coordinator at DPTMS Range Control.

Houston retired from the Installation Engineer Organization as Chief of the Environmental Natural Resources Division after 40 years service and has served as the LRAM Coordinator for past 10 Years.

“Control of undesirable vegetation is a problem for the military training land manager,” Houston said. “The environment at Fort Stewart is such that brushy hardwoods and larger timber grows quickly, impeding visibility and vehicle operation on the land. This is seemingly an insurmountable problem in impact areas and range floors where high explosive ammunition has been fired. In these areas unexploded ordnance occurs with much greater frequency than other training lands because of many years of intense use dating back to World War II. Control of undesirable vegetation in these areas by conventional ground-based methods present unacceptable risks, because of the UXO hazards. Access into impact areas can only be made by trained explosive ordnance disposal specialists, but visibility of targets and safety clearances must be maintained.”

“The LRAM team uses herbicide chemicals applied by specially designed helicopters along with prescription control burning by DPW forestry,” he explained. “These are the only practical tools they have to work

with to cope with this problem. The brush killing chemicals used here are labeled and approved by both the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency as well as the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. In addition, each project has been assessed by the Environmental Division of DPW to assure no adverse environmental impact, and the need for the project validated by the Department of the Army Environmental Center.”

Aerial application is contracted by the local Contracting Command, from licensed aerial applicators, who have unique experience in the treatment of forestry and agriculture lands. The principal chemical used for treatment is Gypohsate, marketed under several different trade names. This material has low persistence and is biodegradable over a short period of time. Houston said. It has been extensively tested to ensure that no adverse impact occurs from its use. It is toxic to plants but has little or no effect on other life forms. When an area is selected for treatment, the LRAM coordinator will fly with the contract pilot over the area to verify the acreage, observe any unusual hazards that may require attention during the application, and take “before” photographs. Extreme care is necessary during the spray flights to ensure no drift occurs from the target areas. Weather conditions are closely monitored during application, and flights cease when wind speed exceed eight miles per hour or rainfall occurs or is threatening.

All application is controlled with a flight director computer /global positioning system in the helicopter



Courtesy photo

Civilians help maintain ranges to meet future training needs.

that directs the spray flights' course, speed, altitude and other parameters. The helicopter is “hot” loaded with chemicals (while still running) from atop a large tank truck that serves as a landing platform. The application proceeds until the entire area is treated. Larger areas require greater numbers of passes (swaths). As many as 150-200 swaths are required to treat the 3000 acre artillery impact area.

Aerial Gunnery Ranges 1, 2, 3 and Luzon Range are also treated in this manner. Application is generally done in the spring or summer when plants are in full foliage. In the following spring, the area is checked by helicopter over-flight and “after” photos taken to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment.

Houston stressed that this unique vegetative management program is training safety driven, ensuring that the Army will be able to sustain the training mission here for years to come with the assurance that the environment is protected.

Hunter community welcomes 3/17 Cav

Spc. Monica K. Smith
CAB Public Affairs

What started out as helping a buddy get a new apartment ended in a \$4,000 donated gift to an entire squadron.

"I was at my leasing office helping a friend get an apartment, and I saw this lady from Texas Roadhouse," said Spc. Steven Rudy, member of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment. "She was bringing my leasing office some gift cards, and I was in uniform so she handed me one. After talking for a while, I mentioned that 3/17 Cav., was a new unit here, and she said she had gift cards she would be able to give to the entire squadron. Honestly, I was shocked. I felt like it would make a change in the morale for the entire squadron, and it was awesome to be able to organize that as a junior enlisted Soldier."

The woman was Rachel Deffendall, local store marketer for Texas Roadhouse Savannah at the Savannah Mall who heads a program called, "Give a gift to a hero."

During the holiday season, guests of the restaurant and other local businesses donate gift cards which are attached to 'thank you' cards. Deffendall helps to distribute those cards to military units around Savannah.

"This is our second year doing this, and it's an awesome program," said Deffendall. "This year we have 1,200 cards. When

any command contacts us for an event, we always provide something for them, whether it's peanuts or appetizers - something. Our mission statement is "Legendary Food. Legendary Service. Legendary Community." This community truly supports the troops."

Rudy told Deffendall how many Soldiers were in his squadron and the next day, Jan. 29, she arrived at the squadron conference room with 400 \$10 gift cards to Texas Roadhouse.

"We have every branch represented at our store and we wanted to find a way to say 'thank you,'" Deffendall said. "This is the smallest thing we could do in comparison to what you do."

During the ceremony, the 3/17 Cav., Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Lemke jokingly told Rudy he would be promoted to sergeant. Surprising everyone, Rudy pulled out a sergeant rank which he keeps attached under the collar of his uniform to remind him of what he's working for.

"A promotion would be nice, but that's not why I wanted to do this," Rudy replied to Lemke. "I feel like the community here in Savannah really looks out for Soldiers. It surprised me that a business would easily offer something like that to an entire squadron. It's hard enough moving to another unit, or city, or state for that matter, but it honestly makes me, and I'm sure the rest of my squadron, feel that much more welcomed here."



Courtesy photo

The 3/17 Cav. Commander, Lt. Col. Thomas von Eschenbach, (left) and Squadron Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Lemke, stand with Rachel Deffendall, local store marketer for Texas Roadhouse, after presenting her with a certificate of appreciation, Jan. 29 at Hunter. Deffendall's certificate was in honor of her part in donating 400 gift cards to welcome the new squadron to Savannah.

New equipment motivates Battle Kings

Pfc. Crystal M. Bradley
2nd BCT Public Affairs

Soldiers receive equipment throughout their military career. They are issued equipment at basic training, advanced individual training, and when they first report to a new duty station.

Field Artillery Soldiers' equipment is often heavy due to the size of the guns they use, so when they are issued new equipment, the Soldiers are faced with the challenge of unloading and loading it.

While lugging around heavy equipment may be tiring for some troops, Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, were excited to receive their new issue.

The "Battle Kings" received refurbished equipment for all of their Paladin Control Firing Systems, one of their most used weapons system, Jan. 30.

Specialist Corey Draeger, Company A, 1/9 FA, said the Soldiers' anticipation of the equipment has been high ever since the unit returned home from Iraq in July 2008.

"After every deployment, the PCFSs are totally

refurbished," said Draeger. "Although the equipment is not brand new, it is rebuilt and we, Soldiers, are super excited to get it."

Oil, fuel, water cans and various tools to all go inside the PCFS made up a portion of the new equipment received.

Like-new computer systems, which operate the weapons system, replaced all old systems and were installed immediately.

Soldiers said that having the equipment makes their job much more enjoyable and comfortable.

"We were so excited to finally get the guns. We knew that we were getting them but now that they actually came, our jobs will be much easier and more comfortable since we don't have to work as hard to keep the equipment up to par," said Pfc. Adam Gewargis, Co. A, 1/9 FA.

The Soldiers also felt a sense of relief when their new equipment arrived, said Draeger.

"It feels good to know that we have reliable equipment to use," he said. "Going into a deployment, these are the kind of things that keep you worry-free and allow you to concentrate on what you're actually there for."

Pfc. Crystal Bradley

Right: Private Derick Kerr passes Pfc. Geoffrey Ostrowski, both with Co. B, 1/9 FA, pieces of the refurbished equipment. The "Battle Kings" received new equipment at their motor pool Jan. 30 for their Paladin Control Firing System, one of the most widely used weapons of field artillery Soldiers.



EIB

from Page 1A

The award itself, challenging infantry Soldiers to be proficient and skilled in several infantryman tasks and drills, stands as one of the most prominent badges to be worn by an infantrymen.

Sergeant 1st Class Terry Upchurch, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, 2nd BCT, and non-commissioned officer in charge of the EIB training, said that the EIB training isn't just important because it perfects the Soldiers' skills, but also because of the tradition and honor the award holds.

"The EIB was first awarded in October of 1943," said Upchurch. "Back then, it tested infantrymen on their basic skills and awarded them if they were found able to perform them correctly. Today, the same standards are held to these Soldiers and this award still validates a true infantryman."

The training consisted of tasks trained and tested at 36 different stations on the EIB test grounds.

Moving under direct fire, camouflaging self and equipment, sharpening first aid skills, map reading, grenade launching, and firing several weapons successfully, including the .50 Caliber and the M249 all were a part of the 36 stations that made up the EIB training.

While training at the sites for sometimes over eight hours a day may have seemed rough, the Soldiers were required to complete a set of prerequisites before they were even allowed to participate in any of the training toward earning their badge.

All Soldiers competing for the EIB hiked a 12-mile ruck march within three hours, carrying 35 lbs of weight, completed a night and day land navigation

challenge, passed all portions of an Army Physical Fitness Test by 75 percent or more in each event, and qualified expert on the M-4 and the M-16.

Though the task of earning an EIB seemed to be no walk in the park, Soldiers seemed to be excited, motivated and ready to train, said Staff Sgt. Andrew D. Debastiani, HHC, 2nd BCT grader at the move-under-direct-fire station.

"I can sense the Soldiers' motivation every time they move up and down my lane," he said. "It's amazing to see them work so hard and keep high spirits at the same time. I am definitely feeding off of their energy."

Private First Class Noah Summerhays, Company A, 1/30th Inf., said excitement wasn't the only thing he felt as he trained for his EIB; he said he could also feel himself carving his path as an infantryman and as a Soldier.

"Earning the EIB sets you apart from your peers," said Summerhays. "They look at you differently once you get it, and you are also more likely to be placed in leadership positions. I am pretty excited about having this chance to get my EIB; this could also mean possible promotion points for me."

The Soldiers' training and pre-testing periods lasted Jan. 20 - 30 at the sites, and upon finishing this, Soldiers were tested Feb. 2 - 4 to determine if they were knowledgeable enough in their skills to become the infantry's next group of EIB awardees.

During testing, Soldiers attempted all of the 36 sites and had to be successful at each site in order to earn an EIB.

The Soldiers were only allowed one "no-go" or miss at each station; if they received two no-gos at any sta-

tion alone, they were automatically eliminated, and if they received three no-gos overall, they were also automatically eliminated.

All Soldiers receiving a "go" at every station on the first try were recognized as "True Blue" competitors and were awarded with distinction at an award ceremony.

The award ceremony, which kicked off with the EIB awardees running from the wood line through clouds of smoke, was held Feb. 6 at Marne Obstacle Course.

Families; Maj. Gen. Tony Cucolo, 3rd ID commanding general; fellow Soldiers and many more were in attendance to watch as Soldiers were pinned with their badges.

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Etheridge, EIB awardee and guest speaker of the ceremony, said that when the EIB was awarded to him during his time in the Army it was known as the 'mark of a man' - and it still is today.

"These Soldiers standing before you gave up nights, weekends, and free time to study hard, work hard and to focus on something that we infantrymen know as more than a pretty badge," said Etheridge. "The EIB signifies expertise at our job and shows our endless dedication to our craft."

Sergeant 1st Class Steve Stutzman, Company A, 1/30th, 2nd BCT, the highest ranking NCO to be awarded the EIB that day, said that the experience was long overdue for him.

"The EIB is the epitome of an infantryman," he said. "Even though I have plenty of experience using my skills, the badge clarifies that I am truly an expert at what I do."

Simulators help DPTMS keep pace with training

Larry J. Durrence
DPTMS representative

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield Training Support Center branch employees returned from the winter holiday break and immediately prepared for a very busy year supporting the 3rd Infantry Division reset; 32nd Infantry Brigade Combat Team training rotation at Camp Blanding, Fla.; 41st Army National Guard mobilization; and West Point Summer Cadet Training Program.

This will probably be one of the busiest years in the history of TSC at Stewart-Hunter. But TSC is up to the challenge as we have a dedicated staff and the latest in training resources. A force training multiplier, virtual simulators are state-of-the-art resources TSC uses to help accomplish its mission in providing the best possible training. One of the newest additions to the virtual simulator family is the Fire Support Combined Arms Tactical Trainer.

The FSCATT was placed in operation in December 2008 and is a high-fidelity simulator system that trains Paladin howitzer crews, fire direction center personnel and forward observers. The FSCATT simulates functional aspects of an actual M109A6 howitzer; it measures, records and displays actual firing data, including deflection, quadrant elevation and bubble level. It also monitors a crew's performance of individual tasks.

The focus is to train the Field Artillery gunnery team to deliver accurate and predicted fires, permitting realistic and continuous training of tasks involving ammunition preparation and handling. Sensors inside the trainer capture data to assess crew-member performance as compared to published standards. The crew trainer's instructor-operator station controls the trainer and captures data to develop an

after action review. In addition, a Fire Direction Center Simulator system is also used to allow FDC personnel to train in the stand-alone mode, simulating the howitzer and the FO.

Enhancements to the TSC Branch are a continuous effort and include the Conduct of Fire Trainer Advance Gunnery Training System upgrade, originally scheduled for March; however, it was recently made by the Program Executive Simulation Training Instrumentation Gunnery Team from Orlando, Fla., completing an upgrade to the COFT AGTS, Jan. 5-13.

The upgrade consists of the Situational Awareness and Tank Urban Survival Kit. Changes to the platform include upgraded forward looking infra red, upgraded biocular sight and upgraded Force XXI Battle Command, Brigade and Below software. The upgrade more accurately emulates the latest tactical platform of the Abrams Main Battle Tank. TSC recently expanded its support capability by providing two new types of service. The first is the improvised explosive device contact team support during field training exercises.

The IED contact team is responsible for setting-up in close proximity of the IED-Defeat lanes to provide units with the necessary supplies and technical support required to operate the IED devices. This support ensures the IED training devices are fully operational during lanes training. This type of support precludes units from having to travel back to the training aids, devices, simulators and simulations distribution warehouse to exchange unserviceable IED components, empty CO2 bottles and replenish



Courtesy photo

The FSCATT is the newest virtual simulator used by the Stewart-Hunter Training Support Center to train Paladin howitzer crews.

flash powder; all of which are required to operate the IED devices.

The second expansion is the counter radio improvised explosive device electronic warfare install/de-install team, known as CREW2. The team is responsible for installing and de-installing the CREW2 devices on military wheeled vehicles prior to and the conclusion of a training exercise. The CREW2 device is designed to jam radio controlled IEDs just like the actual CREW2 in theater.

The CREW2 device is used in the training environment to familiarize Soldiers with the capability and operability of the live CREW system.